

# **The Manufacturing Technology Competitiveness Act, H.R. 250**

## **AS INTRODUCED**

### **Section-by-Section Analysis (By Title and Section)**

#### **Section 1: Short title**

“Manufacturing Technology Competitiveness Act of 2005”

#### **Section 2: Interagency Committee, Advisory Committee**

Directs the President to establish or designate an Interagency Committee on Manufacturing Research and Development. The Interagency Committee would be assisted by an Advisory Committee representing non-governmental interests to provide the Interagency Committee with input to and reviews of Federal manufacturing R&D activities.

#### **Section 3: Collaborative Manufacturing Research Pilot Grants**

Amends the NIST Act by creating a new Section 33 that establishes a pilot grant program within NIST that would fund research partnerships between firms, community colleges, universities, research institutions, State agencies, and non-profits to develop innovative manufacturing technologies. The Federal share of a partnership’s costs could not exceed one-third.

#### **Section 4: Manufacturing Fellowship Program**

Amends Section 18 of the NIST Act to establish a postdoctoral and senior research fellowship program in the manufacturing sciences at NIST.

#### **Section 5: Manufacturing Extension**

Amends Section 25(c)(5) of the NIST Act by adding language to codify the existing MEP center review process, and by establishing a probationary period and re-competition schedule for centers that cannot perform. Amends Section 25 of the NIST Act by adding at the end of that section language creating a new competitive grant program under MEP to provide funding for innovative MEP-related projects.

#### **Section 6: Scientific, Technical, and Research Services**

Authorizes appropriations for the laboratory accounts at NIST at \$425.7 million in FY 2006, increasing by 5 percent per year through fiscal year 2009. The authorization for FY 2006 is divided as follows: \$55.7 million for Electronics and Electrical Engineering; \$29.5 million for Manufacturing Engineering; \$50.1 million for Chemical Science and Technology; \$42.2 million for Physics; \$62.7 million for Material Science and Engineering; \$23.5 million for Building and Fire Research; \$60.6 million for Computer Science and Applied Mathematics, of which \$2.8 million shall be for activities in support of the Help America Vote Act; and \$78.1 million for Research Support Activities.

Authorizes appropriations for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award at \$5.4 million in FY 2006, \$5.5 million in FY 2007, \$5.6 million in FY 2008, and \$5.8 million in FY 2009. Authorizes “such sums as may be necessary” for FY 2006 through FY 2009 for the NIST Construction and Maintenance account.

### **Section 7: Standards Education Program**

Establishes a Standards Education Program as part of the Teacher Science and Technology Enhancement Institute Program at NIST. The program shall award grants on a cost-shared basis to institutions of higher education to develop curricula on the role of standards in engineering, business, science, and economics. Authorizes appropriations for this purpose of \$773,000 for FY 2006, \$795,000 for FY 2007, \$820,000 for FY 2008, and \$844,000 for FY 2009.

### **Section 8: Authorization of Appropriations**

Authorizes for the MEP program \$110 million for FY 2006, of which not more than \$4 million shall be for the competitive grant program established by section 5 of H.R. 3598; \$115 million for FY 2007, of which not more than \$4.1 million shall be for the competitive grant program; \$120 million for FY 2008, of which not more than \$4.2 million shall be for the competitive grant program; and \$125 million for FY 2009, of which not more than \$4.3 million shall be for the competitive grant program.

Authorizes for the collaborative manufacturing pilot grant program under section 3, \$10 million per year for FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.

Authorizes for the fellowship program under section 4, \$1.5 million for FY 2006, \$1.75 million for FY 2007, \$2 million for FY 2008, and \$2.25 million for FY 2009.